



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Minutes

Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Commissioners' Boardroom
Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5231
Salem, Oregon 97301

Attendance:

Commissioners: Danielle Bethell Colm Willis, and Kevin Cameron.

Assessor's Office: Tom Roling, Racheal Estill

Board's Office: Chris Eppley, Matt Lawyer, Gary White, Jon Heynen, Alvin Klausen, Trevor Lane, Kendall Hall and Jonathan Sanford.

Legal Counsel: Steve Elzinga.

Clerk's Office: Bill Burgess and Rebekah Stern Doll.

Finance: Jeff White and John Carlson.

Juvenile: Alicia Cozad and Julie Miller.

Legal: Steve Elzinga, Scott Norris, Jeenifer Rogrs, Michelle Teed and Andrew Mittendorf.

Information Technology (IT): Gary Christofferon.

Public Works: Brian Nicholas, Scott Wilson, Lani Radtke, Tsige Woldegiorgis, and Ryan Crowther.

Health and Human Services (HHS): Rhett Martin, Kailey Knospe, and Melissa Gable.

Sheriff's Office: Nick Hunter and Jason Bernards.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Informational

1. Initial Board Review

Sheriff's Office

- **Interdepartmental Agreement (IDA) with Public Works (PW) for Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspections**
-Commander Jason Bernards and Brian Nicholas

Public Works

- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) North Santiam Canyon Sewer – Project Delivery Agreement with Mill City**
- **Marion County Radio Project – Tower-Climbing Services**
- **Alder Street Sidewalk Improvements Consultant Contact**
- **Buena Vista Ferry Catwalks Construction ITB**
- **Silverton Pedestrian Improvements**
-Brian Nicolas and Ryan Crowther

Juvenile

- **Safe Communities for Youth Grant through Oregon Department of Education**
- **Pre-Employment Background Investigation**
- Julie Miller and Alicia Cozad

Summary of Presentation:

- IDA with Public Works for Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspections:

- Two-year IDA for commercial motor vehicle enforcement support using overtime from traffic safety unit.
 - Waymaster position in PW has been vacant for about two and a half years:
 - Resulting in no recent enforcement presence.
 - Inspectors must complete minimum number of inspections annually to maintain certification:
 - Costs will be reimbursed hourly from PW's existing Waymaster budget.
- ARPA North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project – Project Delivery Agreement with Mill City:
 - Delivery and turnover agreement for Mill City wastewater treatment plant is nearly complete.
 - Expected to come before the Board in about a month:
 - Similar agreement for Gates following shortly thereafter.
 - Committed to distributing current draft agreement to Board staff for review.
- Marion County Radio Project – Tower Climbing Services:
 - Status of procurement approach for services related to radio project.
 - Pursuing an emergency contract would not be practical at this time.
 - Plans to issue low bid advertisement and proceed under standard procurement process:
 - Schedule expected to remain tight but achievable.
- Alder Street Sidewalk Improvements Consultant Contact:
 - Consulting services on Alder Street project in Mill City.
 - Funded through a pedestrian/bike program.
 - County will complete design in house:
 - Consultant will perform environmental work, right of way acquisition, survey, and other ancillary services.
 - Consultant already selected through prior Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- Buena Vista Ferry Catwalks Construction Invitation to Bid (ITB):
 - Federal ferry funds for catwalks and upgrade pole protection systems.
 - Safety benefits for operations staff performing tower maintenance:
 - This continues an ongoing program of similar improvements.
 - Confirmed readiness to move to an ITB for construction services.
- Silverton Pedestrian Improvements:
 - Reviewed annual Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvement plan:
 - Focus on intersections at C Street/James Street and James street /Western Avenue.
 - Upgrade ADA ramps and install enhanced crosswalk warnings:
 - Particularly near school facilities used by students.
 - James is a county road, Western has been transferred to the city:
 - County staff coordinating with the city's new public works director.
- Safe Communities for Youth Grant through Oregon Department of Education:
 - Apply for new state grant of up to \$150,000 for one year:
 - Address youth violence, including gun and gang violence.
 - Funding supports and expands existing contract:
 - Consulting group serving gang affected youth.
 - Safety team working with local law enforcement and schools.
 - Grant is renewable and offsets general fund cost related to current contract.
- Pre-Employment Background Investigation:
 - Additional background investigator to supplement current contracted services.
 - Current turnaround time for backgrounds is about 60 days:
 - Investigative work includes checks beyond standard references.
 - No additional budget is requested.
 - Intent to add capacity and flexibility to complete background checks quickly.

Board Direction:

- IDA with PW for Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspections:

- Proceed.
- ARPA North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project – Project Delivery Agreement with Mill City:
 - Proceed.
- Marion County Radio Project – Tower Climbing Services:
 - Proceed.
- Alder Street Sidewalk Improvements Consultant Contact:
 - Proceed.
- Buena Vista Ferry Catwalks Construction ITB:
 - Proceed.
- Silverton Pedestrian Improvements:
 - Proceed.
- Safe Communities for Youth Grant through Oregon Department of Education:
 - Proceed.
- Pre-Employment Background Investigation:
 - Proceed.

2. Sendit Direct Mail & Fulfillment Contract Amendment

-Bill Burgess

Summary of Presentation:

- Increase existing elections mailing services contract amount from \$90,000 to \$140,000.
- Necessary to pay for costs incurred in recent election and to cover work through upcoming November election.
- Future RFP is planned for next contract term, and amendment aligns with contract policy.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

3. Oregon Counties Assessment & Taxation System (ORCATS)

-Tom Rohlifing

Summary of Presentation:

- Ongoing maintenance of the assessment and taxation system:
 - Acquired using cooperative procurement language from another county.
- Four-year cost schedule with approximately 5% annual escalation from base year.
- New system update:
 - Revised commercial module and veteran exemption tools.
 - Functioning well and supports recent legislative changes.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

4. Helmick Road: Luckiamute River Bridge Agreement

-Ryan Crowther

Summary of Presentation:

- Intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for delivery of federally funded bridge rehabilitation project in Polk County:
 - With state transportation department, Polk County, and Marion County.
- Marion County is certified agency with bridge engineering capacity:
 - Will manage project delivery.
 - Oversee consultant for this complex historic bridge rehabilitation.
- Polk County will provide local match and cover all project cost overruns.
- Marion County will bill fully burdened staff costs.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

5. Radio Project – Summit Solutions Group Contract Amendment #1

-Brian Nicholas

Summary of Presentation:

- Consolidating three construction change orders for the radio site spot improvement:
 - Under the existing small radio site construction contract.
- Cumulative change orders now exceed 25% of original contract value:
 - Triggers Board approval.
 - Does not currently extend contract completion date.
- Changes involve electrical and grounding work:
 - Includes a new dedicated power service at one site.
 - Likely future time extension to accommodate utility work.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

6. Co-Location with State Data Center

-Gary Christofferson

Summary of Presentation:

- Removed from the agenda.

Board Direction:

- N/A

7. Update to Tax Account 333121

-John Carlson

Summary of Presentation:

- Follow-up on land sale contract property at 252 Geneva Avenue SE.
- Contract holder is deceased and two heirs have declined to assume contract.
- About \$4,000 remains owed and property taxes are delinquent:
 - Property condition and use have raised neighborhood concerns.
- Discussed legal options:
 - Declaration of breach.
 - Sheriff service of notice.
 - Potential eviction.
 - Subsequent county disposition of property:
 - Likely by auction.

Board Direction:

- Proceed with declaring breach, coordinating with sheriff, taking possession, and preparing for eventual auction

8. Legislative Update

-Alvin Klausen

Summary of Presentation:

- Transportation Management Grant Application:
 - From Public Works.
 - Brooks-Hopmere intersection.
 - Much growth in the area.

- Community needs help with traffic flow coming off of I5.
- Federal Delegation comments:
 - Delegation sent letter regarding drawdowns.
 - Commented on concerns.
 - Did not mention Detroit or recreation.
 - Stated that it should be done at a later time.

Board Direction:

- Transportation Management Grant Application:
 - Proceed to move forward.

9. Communication Update

- **Off Site Board Session**

-Jon Heynen

Summary of Presentation:

- On July 27, 2026, meeting at Mt. Angel Fire District.
- Logistic questions:
 - Capital Community Media to attend?
 - Provide cookies?
 - Public comment outside of the hearing comment.

Board Direction:

- Event can be streamed on Facebook live.
- Cookies to be provided.
- Public comment only during the hearing.
- Commissioner Bethell to reach out to Clackamas County board to see if they will attend.

10. Board Session

- **July 8, 2026 – Agenda**
- **July 15, 2026 – Draft Agenda**
- **July 22, 2026 – Draft Agenda**

-Commissioner Colm Willis

Summary of Presentation:

- Reviewed upcoming agenda.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE

Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- N/A

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- N/A

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

Other

Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and Gates Project Funding

-Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Summary of Presentation:

- Discussion with state housing and federal housing officials regarding two-year extension of CDBG-DR funds.
- Failure to secure extension jeopardizes local projects:
 - Gates sewer project, as well as potential future peer projects in the county.
- Staff will receive state director's letter to federal agency:
 - Review and draft Board letter requesting extension and expedited approval.
 - Short deadline by end of August.
 - Key decisions impacting Marion County projects.
- Contacted regional federal officials and member of Congress:
 - Suggested that full Board letter, not individual commissioner letter, will carry more weight.
- Frustration with state-level delays and management of funds:
 - Concern of community projects at risk due to timing and implementation issues at state level.
- Need to separate its criticism of state performance from immediate need to protect local projects by strongly supporting requested extension.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward with a letter.

Adjourned – time: 10:20 a.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White